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William E. Vaughan (Reg. No. 39,056)

Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLC

P.O. Box 1135

Chicago, Illinois 60690

Dated: December 3, 2001

certify that this document and fee is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as onDec. 3, 2001 onDec. 3, 2001 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under A C.F.R. 18 and is addressed to the Assistant comprissioner for patents, Washington, D.C. 20231Y

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Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

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JAN 0 3 2007 BANGER THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Thomas Brumm et al.

Appl. No.: Filed:

09/827,433 April 6, 2001

Title:

TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM HAVING A PACKET-SWITCHING

COMMUNICATION NETWORK AND METHOD FOR OPERATING SAME

Art Unit:

Unknown

Examiner:

Unknown

Docket No.:

112740-211

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY

Sir:

On November 13, 2001, a Notice of Incomplete Reply was issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application. It was indicated therein that "the oath or declaration is unsigned."

Applicants respectfully submit, however, that a properly signed Declaration was, in fact, filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 1, 2001 along with a copy of the Notice to File Missing Parts of Application for this case. For the Examiner's reference, a copy of such Declaration is attached herewith.

Please note that this Declaration is seven pages long, with pages 3-7 being the signature pages for the seven joint inventors of the present invention. A close review of these pages reflects that all seven of the inventors have duly executed their respective portions of this Declaration. While it may have appeared, for example, that the fourth inventor Walter Zinkl did not sign this Declaration on page 4, his signature may be found on page 5. Applicants respectfully submit that, upon seeing a blank signature line in the Declaration, the Examiner apparently concluded that the Declaration was not properly executed. As already described, however, this Declaration has been duly executed by all seven inventors of the present invention.

In light of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Notice of Incomplete Reply be rescinded, and that the present application be granted its original filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYF LLC

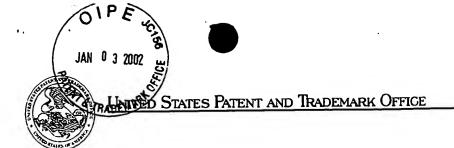
BY

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 2023I
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APPLICATION NUMBER

Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLC

P.O. Box 1135

Chicago, IL 60690

FILING/RECEIPT DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER

09/827,433

04/06/2001

Thomas Brumm

112740-211

**CONFIRMATION NO. 6084** 

FORMALITIES LETTER

\*OC000000007059174\*

Date Mailed: 11/13/2001

## NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE REPLY (NONPROVISIONAL)

## Filing Date Granted

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has received your reply on 08/06/2001 to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed 06/01/2001 and it has been entered into the nonprovisional application. The reply, however, does not include the following items required in the Notice.

The period of reply remains as set forth in the Notice. You may, however, obtain EXTENSIONS OF TIME under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a) accompanied by the appropriate fee (37 CFR 1.17(a)).

A complete reply must be timely filed to prevent ABANDONMENT of the above-identified application.

The required items noted below SHOULD be filed along with any items required above. The filing date of this nonprovisional application will be the date of receipt of the items required above.

• The oath or declaration is unsigned.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

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Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE